

Synopsis of CERT February Workgroup Meeting

After a long discussion regarding 2004 Citizen Corps funding, it was the group's consensus that there was a high probability that funding for CERT might get diverted to other Homeland Security projects thus taking a major chunk out of fledgling, as well as, established programs. GO SERV guidance to local governments should clearly state that no less than 50% of the Citizen Corps portion should go to CERT Programs specifically. We agreed that the justification argument everyone who speaks CERT should use is that CERT is the only programs that supports grass root victim reduction. And that the return on investment in a CERT volunteer is a result of the fact that there will be fewer victims for which first responders will have to respond. GO SERV guidance should also include the mandate that Citizen Corps Councils be in the loop when funds are being dispersed.

Further discussion resulted in the following deliverables that Jim Brown owes the group: 1) A CERT Workgroup ListServe, 2) a CERT Program Managers&Trainers ListServ, and 3) a state partnership with Toast Masters to help improve instructor's public speaking skills.

We then took the daunting challenge of dividing up the proposed CERT T4 curriculum amongst ourselves. It was agreed that the basic outline for the classes would be in the following format: 1) Start up 2) Developing 3) Implementation 4) Maintaining 5) Advanced/Successful Programs. The instruction will focus on each phase of a program throughout the subject discussion.

Program Management - Chris Walters and Tony Coletta
Retention of Trained members - Barbara Cimino
CERT Programs and Budget - Bill McCloud and Chris Wright
Graduations - Brian Waterbury
Advertising CERT - Pamela Nishimoto
Teaching Classes - Marsha Hovey
Refresher Training and Exercises - Barbara Cimino

Then we all agreed to put the first class on in August. That prompted us to put together the following ambitious schedule of monthly meetings, both teleconferences and face-to-face:

Date	Time	Location	Deliverable
31-Mar	9:00-11:00	Teleconference	Rough Draft
21-Apr	2:00 - 4:00	Teleconference	Lesson Plans
26-May	All Day	L.A.	Power Points
23-Jun	9:00-11:00	Teleconference	Approve Curriculum
28-29 Jul	All Day	Monterey	Rehersal

Chris Wright volunteered to set up the teleconferences for us. Bill McCloud is sponsoring our next face to face meeting in LA. I promised to set up the two day meeting in Monterey.

We then all agreed on the T4 2004 Schedule.

Month	Location
Aug	Riverside
Sep	San Jose
Oct	Fresno
Nov	Redding
Dec	Los Angeles